

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY REVIEW

15 September 1960

DEFENSE  
NOT RELEVANT  
TO BAY OFFICE

CUBA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Soviet ship Ilya Mech-  
nikov arrived at Havana with a  
4,000-ton cargo on 8 September,  
the first major bloc arms ship-  
ment to the Castro regime. The  
cargo apparently included  
armored vehicles, artillery, and  
a variety of other weapons and  
equipment. Jet aircraft also  
may have been delivered. In  
July, four or five Soviet MI-4  
helicopters and at least 10,000  
Czech rifles and submachine  
guns had been delivered to  
Havana.

Following Castro's 2 Sep-  
tember announcement that Cuba  
will establish relations with  
Peiping, the head of the Ha-  
vana office of the New China  
News Agency has notified the  
Cuban Foreign Ministry that he  
had been designated by Peiping  
to negotiate the exchange of  
diplomatic missions. Numerous  
mass organizations in Communist  
China have sent congratulatory  
messages to their counterparts  
in Cuba since Castro's speech.

Khrushchev will pay his  
long-promised visit to Cuba  
after his trip to New York for

the opening of the UN General  
Assembly, according to

The Cuban Government has  
announced that Fidel Castro  
himself is to head Cuba's UN  
General Assembly delegation,  
which will also include Foreign  
Minister Roa and Nunez Jimenez,  
the head of Cuba's Communist-  
dominated Agrarian Reform In-  
stitute. Castro will use the  
world forum for further attacks  
on the United States and to  
hold up his revolution as an ex-  
ample for all underdeveloped  
nations and colonial areas. The  
Cuban delegation is expected  
to support the Soviet position  
on all important issues.

Meanwhile, open opposi-  
tion to Castro inside Cuba is  
still uncoordinated and lacks  
effective leadership. The  
Castro forces apparently have  
had no success in routing the  
guerrilla bands that have been  
forming in the Escambray Moun-  
tains of central Cuba for some

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RELEASE AS SANITIZED  
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months. Castro publicly minimized the importance of the guerrillas on 9 September, but the regime actually appears to be taking the threat of a guerrilla build-up seriously. Unconfirmed reports allege that the head of the National Bank, "Che" Guevara, whose experience in guerrilla warfare the regime regards highly, oversaw antiguerrilla operations between 9 and 12 September.

The Cuban consul in Hong Kong broke with the Castro regime on 12 September and wants to come to the United States.

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